

WASHINGTON POST
AND TIMES HERALD

AUG 8 1965

Rep. Reuss's Son Freed In Miss. Trooper's Death

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MEMPHIS, Aug. 7—Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) flew here tonight on his way to Mississippi, just hours after his 18-year-old son was cleared of manslaughter charges in the death of a Mississippi highway patrolman.

The trooper, B. Cowart, 53, died of a heart attack Friday following a brief scuffle with Michael Reuss in the jail at West Point, Miss.

Young Reuss was arrested that day along with 44 other demonstrators as they picketed the Clay County seat's Negro high school.

Heart Attack Is Ruled

The State dropped the manslaughter charges when District Attorney Harvey S. Buck said that Cowart, a cattle theft investigator who had been assigned to West Point during recent racial demonstrations, "died of a heart attack and not of the actions of Mike Reuss."

According to United Press International, Buck said that while Reuss "did resist being searched and apparently pushed the officer . . . (and) although this might have triggered the attack, it is my opinion that Officer Cowart died of a heart attack." Cowart had suffered a serious attack a year ago.

Today, Michael Reuss pleaded guilty in West Point City

Court to charges of interfering with an officer and obstructing the sidewalk, Deputy Sheriff Raymond McClure said. He paid fines of \$25 on the first charge and \$20 on the second and went free.

Michael's fines were paid by Robert Amory Jr., chief of the international division of the Budget Bureau and former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, according to Associated Press.

Judge L. F. Sams suspended fines for the juveniles and women among the demonstrators arrested with him and fined some 18 adult males \$20 each.

No "Special Treatment"

The Representative, who flew to the United States from economic discussions in Warwick, England, as soon as he heard of Michael's arrest, said his trip to Mississippi is "not to procure special treatment for him. I am sure he will want to take his chances along with other civil rights workers."

As he left Memphis tonight in a rented car on the 160-mile journey to West Point, the elder Reuss noted that Michael and the other demonstrators "were just protesting conditions in the Negro high school. There evidently is no equipment or school books, except for a few tattered leftovers from the white high school, no gym and no cafeteria."